

Regional Health Authority B Horizon Health Network

Minutes of Meeting

Board of Directors

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of Regional Health Authority B, held on Thursday, June 24, 2010, beginning 1:30 p.m. in the Sevogle Room, Rodd Miramichi River, Miramichi.

Present: John Laidlaw (Chair), Rod Borden, Karen Branscombe, Richard Breault, Leo Burns, Natasha Campbell, Cathy Carnahan, Lise Drisdelle-Cormier, Harry Doyle, Mavis Hurley, Jean-Eudes Levesque, Barbara Quigley, Wayne Roach, Roxanne Sappier, Donald Peters, Dr. Tom Barry, Kristen Pinsent-Close, Jeff Carter, Michael Chisholm, Jean Daigle, Geri Geldart, Gary Foley, Dr. Edouard Hendriks, Janet Hogan, Dr. John McCann, Nancy Roberts, Nancy Savage, Vicki Squires, Norma MaGee (Recording)

Regrets: Bryana Ganong, Jim Lutes, Bruce McCubbin

The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 1:50 p.m.

1. Minutes of Board of Directors' meeting of May 20, 2010

MOTION:

MOVED BY MS. HURLEY, SECONDED BY MR. BORDEN

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 20, 2010 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

MOTION CARRIED.

2. Report from Research Ethics Board

The Chair welcomed Ms. Jacquelyn Legere, Chair of the Research Ethics Board, to the meeting. She provided an overview of the Board's mandate, meetings held to date and the Board's activity over the past year. Since its inception, the REB has met eight times, has reviewed 60 new research study applications, 123 serious adverse event reports, 167 protocol amendments and 85 annual study reapprovals.

3. Progress report on strategic planning initiatives

Nancy Roberts, VP Health Services Planning, Quality and Research, provided the board with a progress update on the initiatives from the Strategic Framework 2010-2013, approved by the Board of Directors in January 2010. Included in the presentation were examples of some of the 136 project activities that directly support the strategic initiatives, identifying the Vice President responsible for leading the initiative, and the percentage complete. Ms. Roberts noted that this number does not include the 'operational initiatives' and those directed by the Department of Health. A great deal has been accomplished in a short period of time.

Mr. Peters explained that these progress reports would be provided to the Board of Directors twice each year (January and June), and will be complemented by the VP reports to the Chief Executive Officer (October and April).

Board members expressed appreciation for the progress accomplished to date.

4. Report from Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Peters explained the cycle of reports from the organization to the board, with the next written accomplishments/challenges report from the Vice Presidents due in September/October.

5. Committee Reports

Board of Directors' Committees

(a) Health Planning and Delivery: Ms. Hurley reported that the committee met recently and had updates on patient safety, community health centres, clinical networks, and alternate level of care patients and the provincial Overcrowding Committee. The committee also discussed its terms of reference and identified topics for next year's agendas.

Board of Directors' Advisory Committees

(b) Regional Medical Advisory: Dr. Barry explained that the Regional Medical Advisory Committee met on June 8, with presentations on the Provincial Trauma System by Dr. Martin and Mr. Watson; Emergency Codes by Mr. Doherty; and on the role of the provincial coroner with Ms. Linda Hanselacker.

6. For information

(a) Corporate Summary: Circulated with the agenda materials was a copy of a 'corporate summary' – an overview of current activities in Horizon Health Network.

(b) Dalhousie Medical School update: Information on the Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick Program was provided to bring the board members up to date on the planning activities for the September 2010 launch of the Dalhousie Medical School Program in New Brunswick.

(c) N.B. Healthcare Auxiliaries' newsletter: For information, board members were provided with a copy of "Group Connections", the newsletter for New Brunswick Healthcare Auxiliaries, Spring 2010 issue.

7. Other business

Dr. Hendriks introduced Dr. Michael Hayden, Medical Director, Zone 7 Miramichi, who was in attendance at the meeting.

8. Questions from the public

Dr. Gerard Losier, family physician, said he was asked by the Local Medical Advisory Committee in Zone 7 Miramichi to speak with the board regarding the topics of a permanent MRI for Miramichi, long term care issues and overcrowding in hospitals, and recruitment of specialists.

He said there has been a great deal of work done by physicians and others in Miramichi to garner support for a permanent MRI machine at the regional hospital, and was asking for a letter to be sent to the Government to obtain the permanent MRI for Miramichi Regional Hospital. He feels the patients are at a disadvantage to continue without it.

Dr. Losier also spoke about the number of Alternate Level of Care patients in the Miramichi Regional Hospital that could be transferred to a nursing home bed, if there were any available. He said it is difficult to admit acute care patients to the hospital because of the lack of beds.

Miramichi is at a disadvantage when you look at recruitment of specialists and would like to see the government encourage specialists to practice in the smaller centres.

Dr. Ninian Slorach, in charge of family practice, echoed Dr. Losier's comments regarding the need for a permanent MRI for Miramichi Regional Hospital, as well as the comments regarding the ALC patients.

Mr. Laidlaw offered appreciation to the physicians for their comments regarding these important topics.

Mr. Peters noted that the Deputy Minister of Health has suggested that there is a provincial review group comprised of representatives of Horizon Health Network, Vitalité Health Network, and the provincial government reviewing equipment needs in the province, which will make recommendations to the government. The final decision on the allocation of equipment rests with the government.

Mr. Laidlaw suggested that the concerns brought forward by the physicians will be made known to the review group.

9. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on motion by Mr. Borden at approximately 2:50 p.m.

John D. Laidlaw, Chair

Donald J. Peters, Secretary